

Kindly enter the following Amendment:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-4, 6, 27, and 31-37 without prejudice or disclaimer.

REMARKS

Claims 28-30 are pending in the application.

By the foregoing Amendment, claims 1-4, 6, 27, and 31-37 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Attached hereto is a separate page listing the status (i.e., pending or canceled), as of the date of this amendment, of all patent claims and of all added claims. The attached page is titled "STATUS OF CLAIMS AND SUPPORT FOR CHANGES." As no amendments have been made to the claims, it is not believed necessary to provide an explanation of the support in the disclosure of the patent for the changes made to the claims. These changes are believed not to introduce new matter, and entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Based on the above Amendment and the following Remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections, and withdraw them.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his indication that claims 28-30 would be allowable, provided a terminal disclaimer is submitted. A terminal disclaimer is accordingly submitted herewith, as discussed below.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 251

In paragraph 3 of the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6, and 27-31 were rejected as being abased upon a defective reissue oath. This rejection is believed to be overcome by the Supplemental Reissue Declaration submitted herewith.

Objection to the Claims

In paragraph 4 of the Office Action, claim 32 was objected to as depending from a non-existent claim. This objection is rendered moot by the cancellation of claim 32 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In paragraph 6 of the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6, 27, 31-33, 36, and 37 were rejected under section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogawa, Steyr-Kaimler-Puch, and Okamoto; in paragraph 7, claim 34 was rejected as being unpatentable over Ogawa, Steyr-Kaimler-Puch, and Okamoto, further in view of Yajima et al.; and in paragraph 8, claim 35 was rejected as being unpatentable over

Ogawa, Steyr-Kaimler-Puch, and Okamoto, further in view of Stickels et al.. These rejections are overcome by the cancellation of claims 1-4, 6, 27, 31-33, 34, 35, 36, and 37.

Double Patenting Rejection

In paragraph 10 of the Office Action, claims 28-30 were rejected under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claim 7 or 8 of U.S. Patent No. RE37,967 in view of Yajima et al. This rejection is overcome by the Terminal Disclaimer submitted herewith. A credit card payment form or a check in the amount of \$110.00 is enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees under 37 CFR §1.20 and §1.321 which may be required; or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1358.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections have been complied with, properly traversed, or rendered moot. Thus, it now appears that the application is in condition for allowance. Should any questions arise, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned representative so that this case may receive an early Notice of Allowance.

Favorable consideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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9 Feb 04

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